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TAGS: [PREL](#) [KPKO](#) [PREF](#) [SOCI](#) [UN](#) [AU](#) [SU](#)

SUBJECT: SUDAN/DARFUR: CFC Meeting in El Fasher
(Corrected copy)

¶1. (SBU) Summary and background: On June 13, the Darfur Ceasefire Commission (CFC) met in El Fasher, Darfur, the first meeting following the May 5 signing of the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA). Para 2 presents the notes of Lt. Col. Lee Manning, the U.S. CFC Observer; para 3 is the text of the June 13 press release on the CFC meeting as released by AMIS. AU Special representative Baba Gana Kingibe chaired the meeting, which included the participation of UN US/G for Peacekeeping Operations Guehenno and AU/PS&C Commissioner Djinnit. The meeting included presentations of positions of various participants, as well as discussion on assistance to AMIS and modalities for a transition to a UN peacekeeping operation. The meeting also focused on the need to restore security in Darfur, and for those groups that had not yet signed the DPA to do so. The meeting underscored that the CFC covered both the Humanitarian Ceasefire Agreement as well as the DPA; non-signatories to the DPA participated. AU SR Kingibe closed by noting that the Joint Commission should be inaugurated before the July 1-2 AU Summit in Banjul. End summary and background.

¶2. (SBU) Lt. Col. Manning's notes are as follows:

This was the inaugural meeting of the CFC under the terms of the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA). The meeting was attended by the HOM, DHOM, FC, DFC, Vice Chairman, warring party members, GOS, CFC members, UN members, and the press.

Phase I was a closed meeting attended by the CFC members only - no press or outside individuals. The following topics were discussed during this phase of the meeting:

¶A. The first topic discussed regarded any assistance that can be given to AMIS to help with accomplishing the mission. The modalities for transition of the mission from AMIS to the United Nations was discussed. There were no definite solutions to either of these topics.

¶B. The DPA (2006) and HCFA (2004) were discussed. The general direction of the discussions was that the goal of all agreements was to create a secure environment in which NGOs can operate, lessen the tensions between the parties of the conflict, and attempt to resolve differences within the parties. The point was made by the HOM that by attending the meeting the SLA/Wahid representatives and JEM representatives were not committing their parties to the provisions of the DPA; they were gathering information for the memberships. The process of committing to the provisions of the DPA was for politicians and political discussions at the Joint Commission level. The HOM suggested that during CFC meetings under the DPA that the SLA/Wahid and JEM representatives sit in as observers so as to be aware of the current business under discussion and report this to their parties.

¶C. The SLA/Wahid and JEM representatives (Col. Adul and Brig. Gen. Bashar) stated their commitment to the HCFA (2004) and the Protocols (2005), but reiterated their opposition to the DPA. The HOM thanked each for their support and the support of the factions. HOM also reiterated that this closed meeting was being held in order to attempt to solve some of those problems.

¶D. Mini Minawi had a statement regarding attacks by Chadian rebels against his forces in several locations. But said he was committed to the DPA and the processes to follow. Mini also said that AMIS must take steps to protect Darfur and the parties under the DPA. Phase II Open Meeting - The open meeting was attended by the AMIS personnel, UN, parties, and the press.

¶A. The HOM mission gave a short history of the AMIS mission in Sudan. Amb. Gibril spoke and thanked the original CFC for its work and requested the new CFC to continue the work of peace in Darfur.

¶B. HOM conducted a formal handing over of the duties of CFC chairman from Amb. Gibril to the FC.

¶C. JEM and SLA/Wahid stated that they reject the FC as the chairman of the CFC.

¶D. The FC urged all CFC members to continue the work. He also stated that the CFC would continue to meet both as the CFC under the HCFA (2004) and as the new CFC under the DPA (2006).

¶E. The CFC has not met since the inaugural meeting on 13 June 06 and is not scheduled to meet again until 19 June 06 for the first CFC-DPA working meeting.

¶3. (U) The African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) press release on the CFC meeting is as follows:

KHARTOUM 00001428 002 OF 002

THE NEW DARFUR CEASEFIRE COMMISSION INAUGURATED WITH ALL PARTIES IN ATTENDED BY ALL PARTIES

The Darfur Ceasefire Commission (CFC) was inaugurated on Tuesday, 13 June 2006, at the Force Headquarters of the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) in El Fasher, Sudan. As set out in the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA), the CFC is the organ responsible for the implementation and monitoring of the ceasefire provisions of the DPA, and other previous agreements between the Government of Sudan and the parties.

The ceremony was chaired by Ambassador Baba Gana Kingibe, Special Representative of the AU Commission Chairperson and Chairman of the Joint Commission. It was witnessed by Amb. Said Djinnit, the AU Commissioner for Peace and Security and Mr. Jean-Marie Guehenno, UN Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations who are leading the AU/UN joint Technical Assessment Mission.

The inaugural session was attended by representatives of the Government of Sudan and the Mini Minawi's Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A), as signatories of the DPA. They pledged to cooperate fully with the CFC and all other efforts aimed at ending the conflict in Darfur. It was also attended by representatives from the SLM/A of Abdul Waheed Al Nour and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), who have not signed the DPA, but are bound by the N'djamena Ceasefire Agreement, the Addis Ababa Agreement, and the two Abuja Protocols of 2005, all relating to ceasefire arrangements. Both parties pledged their support for all efforts at securing a lasting peace in Darfur.

Commissioner Djinnit stressed that, in the immediate term, efforts must be made to strengthen AMIS in order to enable it to carry out its new responsibilities as stipulated in the DPA and the other agreements. Commissioner Djinnit also welcomed the fact that all

parties were represented at the event and called upon them to quickly take up their tasks.

The AMIS Force Commander and new Chairperson of the CFC, General CRU Ihekire, underlined the pivotal role to be played by the Commission in resolving issues relating to ceasefire violations between the parties. He further stated "that the CFC will leave no stone unturned in facilitating the resolution of disputes by dialogue."

Mr. Guehenno, urged all parties to build upon the momentum provided by this important event. He expressed the determination of the international community, especially the United Nations, to bolster support for the valuable efforts of the African Union to bring long-lasting peace and stability to Darfur.

Finally, Ambassador Kingibe announced that efforts will be made to inaugurate the Joint Commission soon, if possible, before the holding of the African Union Summit in Banjul, scheduled for 1-2 July 2006.

El Fasher, 14 June 2006

HUME